

CLAIMS:

- SUBAUF
1. A method of embedding a watermark in an information signal, comprising the steps of:
 - analyzing a given property of the information signal and determining an actual value of said property;
 - 5 - associating different watermarks with distinct values of said property; and
 - selecting the watermark associated with said actual value for embedding in the information signal.
 - 10 2. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the information signal is a sequence of video images, said analyzing step comprising analyzing a spatial or temporal distribution of luminance values, each distinct distribution of luminance values constituting a value of said property of the information signal.
 - 15 3. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the information signal is a sequence of audio signal segments, said analyzing step comprising analyzing a shape of the frequency spectrum of said audio segments, each distinct shape of the frequency spectrum constituting a value of said property of the information signal.
 - 20 4. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the embedded watermark is a combination of two or more basic watermark patterns constituting a set of basic watermark patterns being selected from different sets in dependence upon the actual value of the property of the information signal.
 - 25 5. A method of detecting a watermark in an information signal, comprising the steps of:
 - analyzing a given property of the information signal and determining an actual value of said property;
 - associating different watermarks with distinct values of said property; and
 - selecting and detecting the watermark associated with said actual value.

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6. A method as claimed in claim 5, in which the information signal is a sequence of video images, said analyzing step comprising analyzing a spatial or temporal distribution of luminance values, each distinct distribution of luminance values constituting a value of said property of the information signal.

7. method as claimed in claim 5, in which the information signal is a sequence of audio signal segments, the method comprising the steps of calculating the frequency spectrum for each segment, each distinct shape of said frequency spectrum constituting a value of said property of the information signal.

8. method as claimed in claim 5, in which the embedded watermark is a combination of two or more basic watermark patterns constituting a set of basic watermark patterns being selected from different sets in dependence upon the actual value of the property of the information signal.

9. watermark embedder for embedding a watermark in an information signal, comprising:

- means (12) for analyzing a given property (P) of the information signal and determining an actual value of said property;
- means (14) for associating different watermarks with distinct values of said property; and
- means (13) for selecting the watermark associated with said actual value for embedding (11) in the information signal.

10. A watermark detector for detecting a watermark in an information signal, comprising:

- means (22) for analyzing a given property of the information signal and determining an actual value of said property;
- means (24) for associating different watermarks with distinct values of said property; and
- means for selecting (23) and detecting (21) the watermark associated with said actual value.

11. A watermark embedder as claimed in claim 9, further including a watermark detector as claimed in claim 10, and comprising means (15) for refraining from embedding the

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selected watermark in response to said detector detecting said selected watermark in the information signal.

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